

NEWS RELEASE

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Flood watch issued for Yakima River

Richland, Wash: The National Weather Service has issued a Flood Watch for the Yakima River in the Kiona/Benton City area. The river is expected to rise to flood stage by Sunday afternoon and continue to rise through Monday.

Emergency officials will be issuing further information on precautionary actions residents along the river should take in advance of the rising water.

Residents living along the Yakima who normally see localized flooding in the spring should take the necessary steps now, ahead of the expected high water, to protect property and livestock. Families should also be prepared to evacuate if that need arises.

Local officials urge residents to stay away from the rising waters. The increased level and flow makes the river extremely dangerous.

Up-to-date information is also available on the Benton County Emergency Services website at www.bces.wa.gov.

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A Flood Watch is issued to indicate the possibility of rapidly rising water and flooding or high water on streets, underpasses and around storm drains.